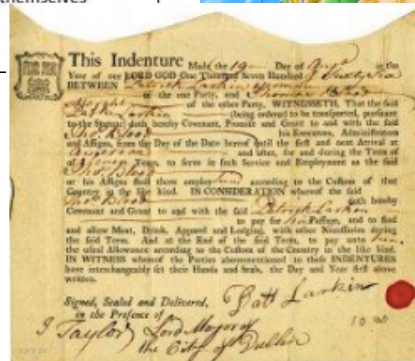
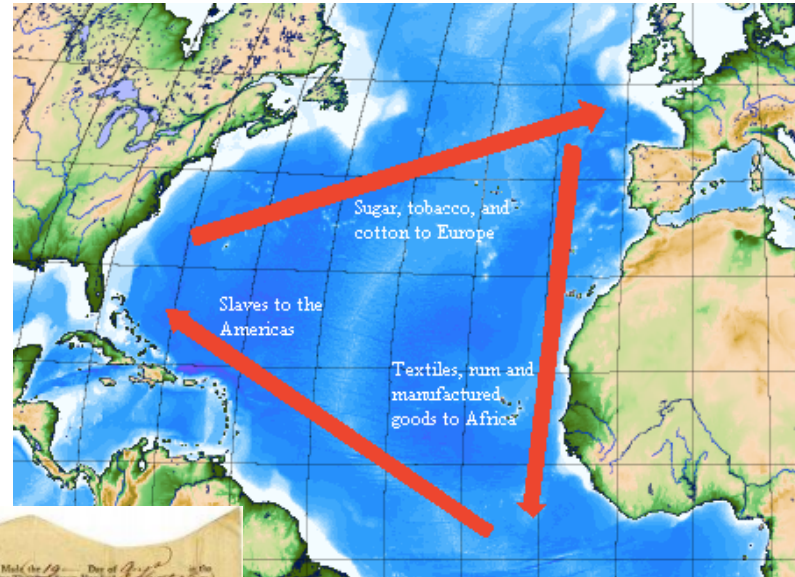
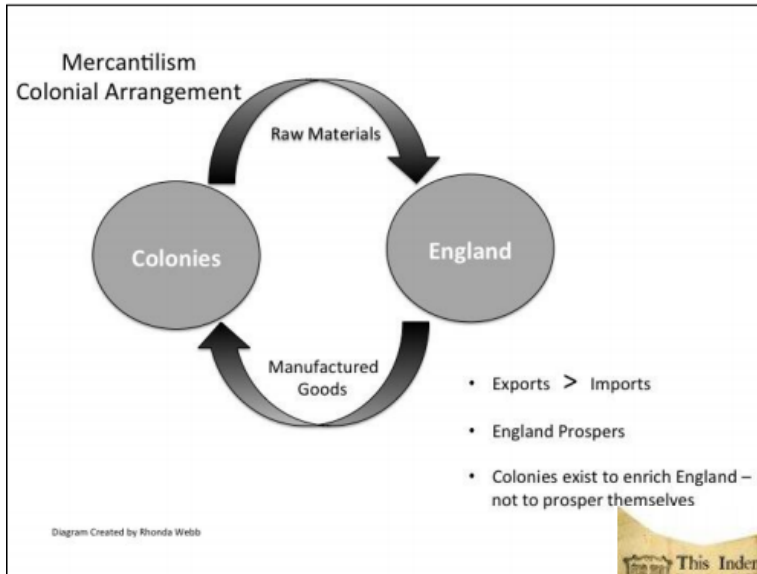


# SSUSH1: COMPARE AND CONTRAST THE DEVELOPMENT OF ENGLISH SETTLEMENT AND COLONIZATION DURING THE 17<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY



[Indenture between Patrick Larkin and Thomas Blood, 17 August 1766, Virginia](#)

***ELEMENT A: Investigate how mercantilism and trans-Atlantic trade led to the development of colonies.***

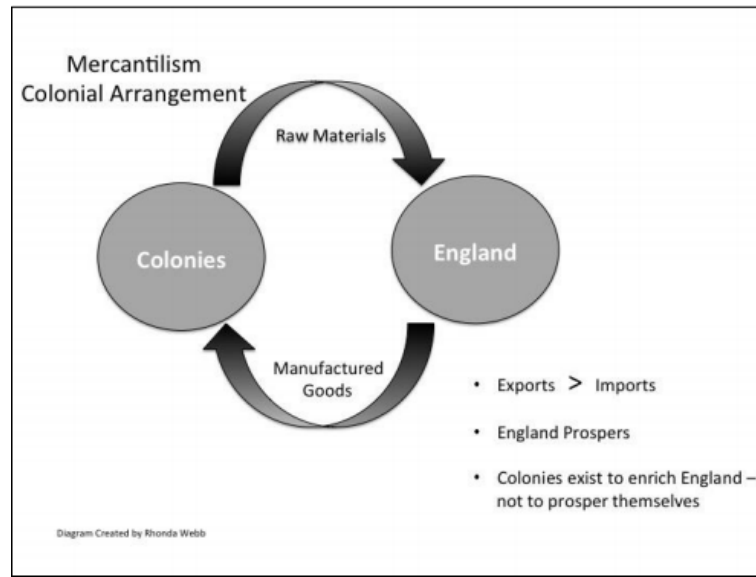
# SSUSH1 Overview

- The settlement of permanent English colonies in North America, beginning with Jamestown in 1607, further cemented the development of an already emerging and complex Atlantic World.
- The convergence of North American, South American, European, and African peoples in the western hemisphere was a complicated mix of conquest, trade, and religious mission.
  - Spanish, French, and English colonies existed simultaneously in North America, each with different objectives and different approaches to the American Indians they encountered.
  - Likewise, differences among the thirteen English colonies existed in terms of their founding purposes, interaction with American Indians, and economic development.
- England's various North American colonies were, however, united under their mother country's strong focus on extracting colonial resources through mercantilism and trans-Atlantic trade even though this objective did not always align with the colonists' growing desire for economic, religious, and political autonomy.



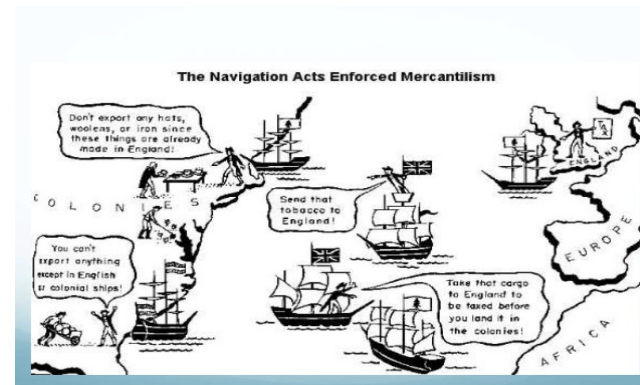
# Mercantilism

- ❑ Although many English colonists came to North America searching for religious or political opportunity, it was economic opportunity that fueled the ambition of other English colonists, as well as, their mother country.
  - Investors sought financial returns for their colonial ventures.
  - England sought to extract resources from North America in order to compete with their European rivals for wealth and power.
  - By the 1650s, England was heavily entrenched in trans-Atlantic trade based on mercantilism.
- ❑ Mercantilism is an economic theory based on reducing a country's imports while expanding its exports in order to maximize wealth. In the highly competitive European world of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, wealth equated to power.
  - Thus, mercantilism inspired European governments, including England, to promote American colonies as sources of raw materials not readily available in the mother country.
  - Some of the most important resources England plucked from its colonies included lumber, sugar, wool, tobacco, rice, and indigo. These raw materials were then used in England to produce manufactured goods for export to other European countries and back to the colonists in North America.



# Mercantilism

- ❑ A favorable trade balance resulted for England in the colonial arrangement.
  - Raw materials that were scarce in England were acquired from their colonial possessions.
  - Simultaneously, the colonies were a ready market for the manufactured products produced in England from the raw materials. The trans-Atlantic trade network that resulted led to various colonial labor arrangements and restrictive policies to ensure England maximized its mercantilist potential.
- ❑ England implemented a series of Navigation Acts in the mid-1600s to ensure a favorable trade arrangement with the colonies.
  - The laws were designed to keep England's own colonies from competing with their mother country by mandating three fundamental criteria for trans-Atlantic trade.
    1. First, all goods shipped to or from English North America had to travel on English ships.
    2. Second, any goods being imported to the colonies from Europe had to first be processed through an English port.

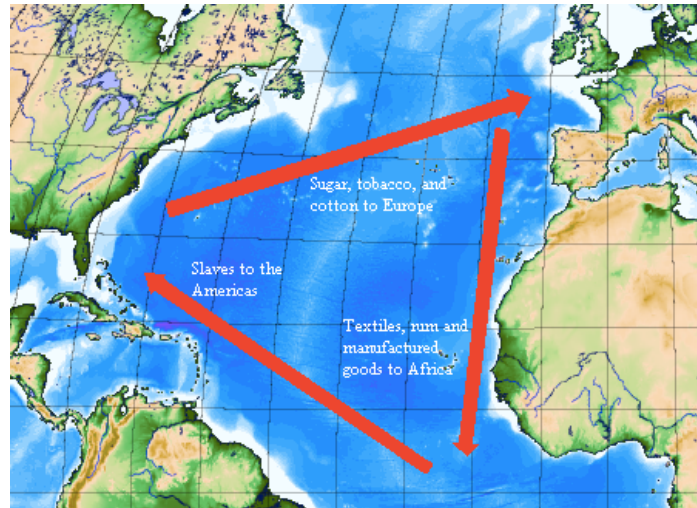


# Mercantilism

3. Most colonial resources could only be exported to England.
  - The Navigation Acts restricted the profits colonists could receive for their products, hindered the development of large scale manufacturing in the colonies, and forced colonists to pay high prices for goods they were only allowed to purchase from England.
  - One positive effect of the Navigation Acts on the colonies was the emergence of ship building as a viable industry in New England.
    - Since the Navigation Acts required all goods to travel on English ships, there was an instant demand for more ships to be built from the lumber readily available in North America.
    - Another effect of the Navigation Acts was increased smuggling of goods into North America by colonists who sought their own lucrative trade practices- regardless of legality.



# Trans-Atlantic Trade



- England's trans-Atlantic trade flourished under the mercantilist system. Trans-Atlantic trade, sometimes referred to as Triangular Trade, often took a three step voyage around the Atlantic rim.
1. English ships loaded with rum, cloth, and other manufactured goods sailed to Africa, where they were traded for Africans as part of the slave trade.
  2. Then, in the Middle Passage, the slaves were transported on a brutal voyage to the Americas and sold there as a forced labor commodity to colonial landowners.
  3. The third step of the journey transported American raw materials to England to be made into the manufactured goods that would start the cycle again.

# Trans-Atlantic Trade

- ❑ Colonial labor was critical for the production of materials England needed for a profitable mercantilist system.
  - Labor needs were first filled through the use of indentured servants and then later by permanently enslaved Africans.
  - Indentured servants were typically lower class Englishmen who could not afford to pay for the voyage to North America but saw life in the colonies as an opportunity for economic advancement they would otherwise never have in England.
    - Indentured servants worked for a land owner in exchange for their passage to North America. The land owner obtained labor and the indentured servant obtained the future opportunity to own land after working off their debt over a period of approximately four to seven years.
    - Tensions began to develop over the continual need to supply land to newly freed indentured servants.
  - African slaves were introduced as a labor source beginning in 1619. Eventually, plantation owners came to rely on African slaves as a more profitable and renewable source of labor.
  - England developed resource-producing colonies in North America primarily to fuel mercantilism and to amass wealth and power over their European rivals.
    - The resulting trans-Atlantic trade system was regulated through Navigation Acts and led to various labor sources being used by colonists to meet the resource demands of England.



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